

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8607

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 8090

NOFORN

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, MX

SUBJ: MISSION MONTHLY NARCOTICS REVIEW FOR SEPTEMBER, 1973.

REF: MEXICO 6818, 6865, 7116, 7363, 7162, 7386 AND 6749

1. SUMMARY: SEPTEMBER WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY THE AMBASSADOR'S NARCOTICS DEMARCHE TO PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA AND BY TWO FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS BETWEEN THE DCM AND ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA. THE ACTING SECRETARY OF TREASURY WAS

FORTHCOMING CONCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING FINANCIAL INFORMATION ON NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS. MEXICAN CUSTOMS HAS ASKED FOR DOG HANDLER AND RELATED INSPECTOR TRAINING, AND IS PROCEEDING TO IMPLEMENT THEIR END OF THE CUSTOMS-TO-CUSTOMS AGREEMENT. A USEFUL MEETING OF EMBASSY AND DEA OFFICIALS WAS HELD IN SAN ANTONIO PREPARATORY TO THE OCTOBER BORDER NARCOTICS CONFERENCE. NARCOTICS SEIZURES WERE UP IN SEPTEMBER, WITH THE GOM REPORTING 19.5 KGS OF HEROIN; 8 KGS OF MORPHINE AND 12 KGS OF COCAINE CONFISCATED. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY AND GOM ACTIVITIES:

A. THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT ON THE MONTH WAS
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THE AMBASSADOR'S SEPTEMBER 11 NARCOTICS DEMARCHE TO

PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, FULLY REPORTED IN EMBTELS 6818 AND 6865.

B. ON SEPTEMBER 20, CHARGE DEAN CALLED ON ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA TO INTRODUCE VISITING COUNTRY DIRECTOR PHIL TORREY AND TO FOLLOW UP ON THE AMBASSADOR'S DEMARCHE. (SEE MEXICO 7116).

C. THE AMBASSADOR HOSTED A BREAKFAST FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ON SEPTEMBER 28, WHICH WAS DEVOTED TO A LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF POINTS RAISED IN THE DEMARCHE (MEXICO 7362).

D. THE ECONOMIC COUNSELOR MET SEPTEMBER 21 WITH ACTING TREASURY SECRETARY RAMON BETETA TO DISCUSS US TREASURY SECRETARY SHULTZ' LETTER CONCERNING THE RELEASE BY MEXICAN BANKS OF CERTAIN FINANCIAL INFORMATION ON NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS (MEXICO 7162 AND 7386).

E. THE US CUSTOMS DETECTOR DOG "ALBERT" AND HANDLER STEIDLY LEFT MEXICO AT THE END OF THEIR TDY PERIOD. ALTHOUGH ALBERT & STEIDLY HAD THEIR PROBLEMS WITH INEXPERIENCED OR MISTRUSTFUL GOM AUTHORITIES AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT, THE OVERALL IMPRESSION OF THEIR WORK WAS SO FAVORABLE THAT MEXICAN

CUSTOMS REQUESTED DOG HANDLER AND RELATED INSPECTOR TRAINING IN THE US AND MEXICO (MEXICO 6749).

F. IN ACCORDANCE WITH NEWLY-COMPLETED CUSTOMS-TO-CUSTOMS AGREEMENT (SEE AUGUST MONTHLY REPORT), MEXICAN CUSTOMS IS MOVING AHEAD WITH PURCHASE OF THEIR SHARE (\$70,000) OF RADIO NET.

G. ON SEPTEMBER 24, DCM ROBERT DEAN, DEA REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR TOM DEAN, AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT ALBERTI MET IN SAN ANTONIO WITH DEA OFFICIALS INCLUDING DEA ADMINISTRATOR JOHN BARTELS. THE MEETING WAS COINCIDENT TO THE US POLICE CHIEFS CONVENTION IN SAN ANTONIO AND WAS DESIGNED AS AN EXPLORATORY SESSION PRELIMINARY TO THE FULL-SCALE BORDER NARCOTICS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN SAN ANTONIO ON OCTOBER 17-19.

3. ENFORCEMENT:

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A. WITH US AUTHORITIES
2 KGS OF COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.
350 GMS. OF HEROIN SEIZED AT MONTERREY.
NEARLY 2,000,000 AMPHETAMINE PILLS WERE TAKEN AT SAN YSIDRO.
2 KGS. OF HEROIN SEIZED AT REYNOSA.
1.5 KG. OF HEROIN SEIZED AT MEXICALI.
1.81 KG. OF HEROIN SEIZED AT HERMOSILLO.
"ALBERT" SPOTTED 2.6 KGS. COCAINE AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

5 KGSBM OF HEROIN SEIZED AT MATAMOROS.

B. INDEPENDENT MEXICAN OPERATIONS

1000 LSD PILLS, 1 TON MARIJUANA SEIZED AT GUADALAJARA.

5.5 KGS. HEROIN SEIZED IN CULIACAN.

10 OZS. OF HEROIN SEIZED AT MATAMOROS.

.5 KG. COCAINE SEIZED IN NOGALES.

4 KGS. OF COCAINE SEIZED IN SALTILLO.

2.2 KGS. COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

400 GMS. OF COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

2 KG. OF COCAINE SEIZED IN ACAPULCO.

8 KGS. OF MORPHINE SEIZED IN SINALOA.

1 KG. OF COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

4 KGS. OF COCAINE SEIZED IN SIX DIFFERENT CASES AT
HERMOSILLO, MEXICALI AND SAN LUIS, SONORA.

2.5 KGS. OF COCAINE SEIZED AT MEXICO CITY AIRPORT.

TOTALS FOR THE MONTH:

19.5 KGS. OF HEROIN.

8 KGS. OF MORPHINE;

12 KGS OF COCAINE;;

7,017 LSD PILLS;

100,000 AMPHETAMINE AND BARBITURATE PILLS.

4. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT TOTALS FOR MONTH GIVEN BY GOM
VARY CONSIDERABLY FROM THE TOTALS OF INDIVIDUAL SEIZURES
REPORTED ABOVE, WHICH ARE LARGELY TAKEN FROM PRESS SOURCES.
IT IS DIFFICULT TO SAY WHETHER THE GOM FIGURES ARE ON
THE LOW SIDE AS THE RESULT OF INCOMPLETE REPORTING
OR WHETHER THE PRESS ACCOUNTS ARE MISLEADING BY CONTAINING
INFLATED FIGURES OR MULTIPLE ACCOUNTS OF THE SAME SEIZURE.
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PURPOSES, IT IS PROBABLY SAFER TO
ACCEPT THE GOM MONTHLY TOTALS.

5. EMBASSY

REGRETS LATE SUBMISSION OF THIS REPORT,
WHICH WAS DELAYED BY BORDER NARCOTICS CONFERENCE AND
UNAVAILABILITY OF GOM SEIZURE DATA. WE DO NOT
ANTICIPATE SIMILAR PROBLEMS IN FUTURE.
MCBRIDE

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